

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



Editor
Robert A. Domingue
59 Greenwood Road
Andover, Mass. 01810

VOL. 21, NO. 4

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1997

WHOLE NO. 122

ALFREDO DE ROCHA VIANNA, JR. PIXINGUINHA



Born in 1898, Alfredo de Rocha Vianna, Jr., was a Brazilian musician and composer. He was honored by this postage stamp of his native land on April 23, 1997, Scott No. 2627. Beginning in his youth, he became well know for the richness and beauty of his compositions - especially as a flute player. His interpretations involved arrangements of foreign and popular influences on the traditional carioca music which revolutionized Brazilian music. He started his illustrious career in 1919 when he formed the group "Os Oito Batutas" ("The Eight Batons") which played at the Movies Palais during the intermissions. That same group later played in Paris and Buenos Aires. Pixinguinha's compositions were generally merry and casual with a bit of the traditional romanticism interlaced; "Carinosa" ("Lovely") was the best example. A very happy man, of goggle-eyes, modest, entranced by the carnival and noted musicians, he gained the adoration of the entire country. During the period in which he resided in Buenos Aires, he served in the Prefecture of the Federal State there. He died in 1973.

The date of his initiation has not been learned but there is credible information that confirms his affiliation to the Lodge "Comercio e Artes" ("Commerce and Arts") of Rio de Janeiro. He is also credited as a Mason in the "Catalogo Maconico do Selos & Carimbos do Brazil", 1997 Edition, published by Bro. Renato Mauro Schramm.

- article and stamp provided by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Member No. 243 of Barcelona, Spain

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

430. Frederick H. Umlauf, P.O. Box 310, Woodstown, NJ 08098

432. Paul Freed, P.O. Box 819, Rishon-Le-Zion, 75107, Israel

470. David B. Harte, D.M.D., P.O. Box 251, Milton, MA 02186

ADDRESS CHANGES:

19. Dr. M. L. Nafzinger, P.O. Box 550, Occoquan, VA 22125

76. P. J. Bom, Schouw 517, 8232 HA Lelystad, Netherlands

267. Henry L. Kinsley, Jr., 120 Gas Light Dr., Apt. 12, South Weymouth, MA 02190

370. Novarina Marco, Casella Postale 44, 10098 Rivoli, Torino, Italy

We are honored to welcome Bro. Umlauf to our midst - he is the Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

As a follow-up to the comments regarding Bro. Stan Longenecker in the most recent issue, he informs us that he has decided on the "seeds" program which goes on for three months. Following a very expensive injection, he takes a pill a day until mid December. If the prostate cancer has shrunk somewhat, the doctors will then insert radiation seeds into the cancer and he will continue with the pills for another three months. A long process but we hope it will prove beneficial.

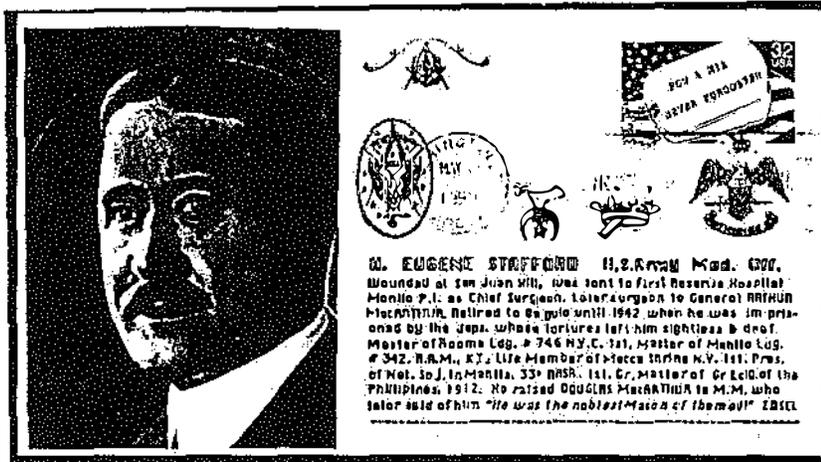
On September 8, 1997, Bro. Juan Sabater Pie was installed Junior Warden of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Catalogne, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Spain. Catalogne is a nation within the Spanish State which contains 6 million inhabitants, has its own flag and speaks a different language than pure Spanish. The Catalan is closer to the French than the Spaniard. Congratulations Bro. Juan and our best wishes for a successful term.

Our parent organization, the American Topical Association, has invited us to participate in the National Topical Stamp Show to be held at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel, Falls Church, VA, on July 17-19, 1998. The MSU has never participated in such an event before and Bro. Norm Lincoln, our President, and myself would like to solicit your thoughts about considering such a venture. This might be an excellent opportunity to vote for new officers, conduct business, sell or trade duplicates, etc. The room rate there is \$88 per night. What are your thoughts - I would like to hear from you on this subject.

Bro. W. Lightbody, 66 Jerviston Rd., Motherwell, MLI 4AA Strathclyde, England, is searching for "show biz" Masonic FDCs especially the Colorano ones for Ernest Borgnine and Victor McLaglen.

Bro. Juan Sabater Pie would like to be able to acquire Masonic Post cards - an item that is not found in Spain. His address is Ronda Guinardo, 28 3o 1a, 08024 - Barcelona, Spain.

H. EUGENE STAFFORD



The cover shown here was prepared by Bro. Edsel Hatfield to honor Eugene Stafford, a U.S. Army Medical Officer who was taken prisoner when the Philippines fell. Japanese torture left him blind and deaf from losses which he never recovered. He did survive the death camps, however, and lived until 1954. Bro. Edsel was able to acquire this photograph from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines after a long search for the same.

Born in Meridian, Mississippi, in 1869, he was one of the first to be commissioned in the medical service in the Spanish-American War; he was made Captain and assistant surgeon in the 71st N.Y. National Guard. Wounded by shrapnel at San Juan Hill in Cuba, he was detailed to Manila, arriving there in May 1899 and becoming chief surgeon of the First Reserve Hospital. He was then detailed to the Malacanan Palace as surgeon to Gen. Arthur MacArthur. He engaged in civil practice there and shortly before World War II moved to Baguio. In 1942 his stay was interrupted by the Japanese who imprisoned him and his wife. Following his death in 1954, his ashes and those of his wife were scattered over Manila Bay at sundown on Aug. 7, 1954, as ordered by his will.

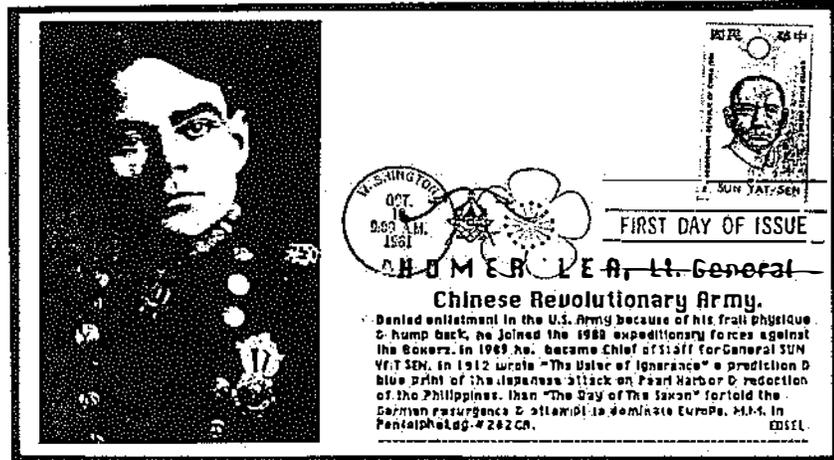
Bro. Stafford was raised in Room Lodge No. 746, New York City, and served as Master of that Lodge in 1895 and 1898. He later demitted to become a Charter Member and first Master of Manila Lodge No. 342 under Calif. (now No. 1). He belonged to York and Scottish Rite bodies and was life member of Mecca Shrine Temple, New York City. He was elected first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at its formation in Dec. 1912 and was re-elected the next year at the first regular meeting. He raised Gen. Douglas MacArthur to the third degree and MacArthur later said of him, "He was the noblest Mason of them all".

-information and cover provided by Bro. Edsel Hatfield, Member No. 21 of Hazelwood, MO.

Your Editor has finally acquired some of the recent issues from Chile for the Interamerican Masonic Conference. The individual stamps are \$1.50 each and the Souvenir Sheet is \$6.50. I only have a very limited supply of each - act now if you are interested.

HOMER LEA

The cover prepared by Bro. Edsel Hatfield for Homer Lea is shown here. The article on this illustrious Brother was presented in the previous issue of the Newsletter.



REGISTRY OF NAMES OF LIVING WELL-KNOWN FREMASON

Bro. Peter J. Westbere, Member No. 419, of Canada, would like to start the organization of a registry of names (and addresses) of living, well-known Masons who are involved in Politics, Movies, Sports, Industry, Military, etc. He has had considerable success and great pleasure in being able to write to such individuals for autographs. He recalls correspondence with Gerald R. Ford, Bob Dole, Sam Nunn, Jack Kemp, Gene Autry, Glenn Ford, Red Auerbach, Arnold Palmer and many more. He gets about a 98% response level. He is presently trying to locate the addresses for former Sen. Bro. Birch Bayh of Indiana and Sports announcer Curtis "Curt" Gowdy. He also notes that Bro. Frank O'Bannon, Gov. of Indiana, is a member of Pisgah Lodge #32 and Bro. Cecil Underwood, Gov. of West Virginia, is a member of Phoenix Lodge #73. Former Speaker of the House, Jim Wright of Texas will also sign items - he is a very proud Mason.

Bro. Westbere is trying to locate a copy of Denslow's "10,000 Famous Freemasons" to expand his reference base. He seems to be doing very well without it but we can imagine the expansion of his efforts with that at his fingertips. Jimmy Davis, the former two term Gov. of Louisiana and country singer is still alive - he was born in 1899.

Should any members wish to join in with Bro. Westbere to help organize a Registry, I am sure that he would appreciate the cooperation and correspondence. Perhaps if a significant effort were achieved, a summary document of some form might become available. His address is 33 Philip Ave., Guelph, Ontario N1E 1R5, Canada.

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

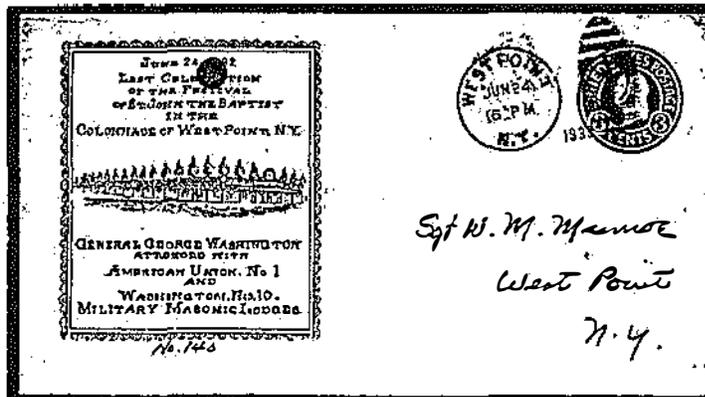
Secretary-Treasurer
 Otto Steding
 1033 Hollytree Drive
 Cincinnati, OH 45231

President
 Norman Lincoln
 P.O. Box 454
 Eaton, OH 45320

Membership
 \$8.00 - North America
 \$14.00 - All Other

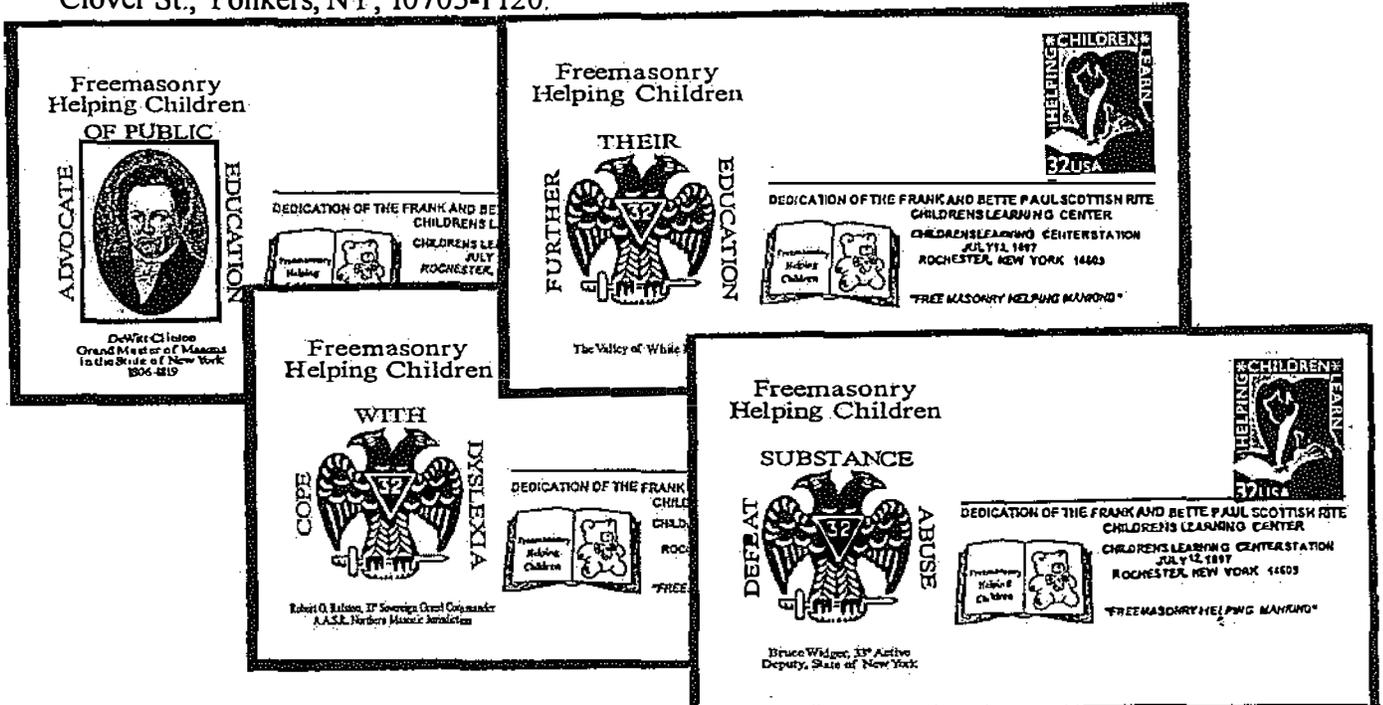
QUESTIONS ABOUT A COVER

Your Editor literally stumbled across the cover shown below at a recent local bourse. It is a very simple but well done cover on a Masonic note. Unfortunately, I am not content just to own it - it raises so many questions. The "No. 140" appears to be part of the printing rather than being added on - this implies that it was #140 in a series of cachets rather than cover #140 of those processed for the Celebration event. I realize that the date of June 24, 1933, may be stretching the memory banks of our members but does anyone have any information on the publisher of this cacheted cover and any other similar ones published?



COVERS FOR THE PAUL LEARNING CENTER

The Valley of White Plains (NY) produced a series of four covers to note the dedication of the Frank and Bette Paul Scottish Rite Children's Learning Center in Rochester on July 12, 1997. The Valley is selling these at \$7.00 for the set, including postage; \$3.00 of each sale is being donated to the Center. They can be ordered from Richard E. Suneson, 41 Clover St., Yonkers, NY, 10703-1120.



MASONIC CONDUCTORS

The recent USPS release to honor conductors does not include any who were Masons; the issue does bring to mind, however, three Masons who will probably not be included in future releases:

Fausto Angelo Cleva was born in Trieste May 17, 1902, and died Aug. 6, 1971, in Athens. He studied in Trieste and Milan and came to the U.S. in 1920 to become an assistant conductor at the Metropolitan opera. In 1942 he went to San Francisco to conduct its opera. In 1944 he moved to the Chicago Civic Opera. From 1934 to 1963 he conducted at the Cincinnati Summer Opera. (Bro. Norm Lincoln recalls his aunt taking him to see "Carmen" with Coe Glade in the title role - they sat outdoors in the Cincinnati Zoo.) In 1949 he returned to San Francisco for six years. Meanwhile, in 1950, he became the principle conductor at the Met - a position he held until his death. He recorded arias by many celebrated artists including Bro. Richard Tucker and many noted operas. Bro. Cleva was a Past Master of Alba Lodge No. 891, New York City.

Fabien Sevitzy had a similar career. Born in Volotchuk, Russia, Sept. 30, 1893, he studied at St. Petersburg Conservatory and served in the army during the First World War. In 1923 he came to the U.S. and became a naturalized citizen five years later. He played the bass fiddle for the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Philadelphia Opera and the Pennsylvania Opera. In 1932 he was conductor of the Peoples Symphony of Boston. He toured the world as a guest conductor in many of the musical capitols and in 1937 he became the conductor of the Indianapolis Symphony - a post he held for 18 years. From 1959 to 1965 he taught at the University of Miami. He recorded for RCA Victor and Capital and died Feb. 3, 1967. Bero. Sevitzy was raised in Oriental Lodge No. 500, Indianapolis June 6, 1944. He was also a member of the York Rite, a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite and a Shriner.

Peter Maag was born at St. Gallen, Switzerland, May 10, 1919. He attended universities in Zurich, Basel and Geneva and studied with Alfred Cortot and Ernest Amsermet. After service in the Swiss Army, he became an assistant to Wilhelm Furtwangler. He conducted the Dusseldorf Opera in 1952, the Bonn State Theater in 1955 and the Vienna Volksoper in 1963. He was also guest conductor at Turin and Parma. He has specialized in the work of Bro. Mozart, recording many of his works. He is a member of Lodge Stern am Jura, Biel, Switzerland, and Mozart Lodge, Vienna, and is a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite.

Bro. Norm Lincoln also indicates that the Cleveland Orchestra, of which George Szell was the long-time conductor, makes many of its recordings in the Euclid Avenue Masonic Temple Auditorium because of its superior acoustics. He believes the Detroit Symphony records in the Detroit Masonic Temple - as does the Detroit Concert Band conducted by Bro. Leonard Bingley Smith. Perhaps there are other Masonic buildings where records are made.

-information provided by our Unit Pres. Norm Lincoln, Eaton, OH

MASONIC INPUTS FROM SPAIN

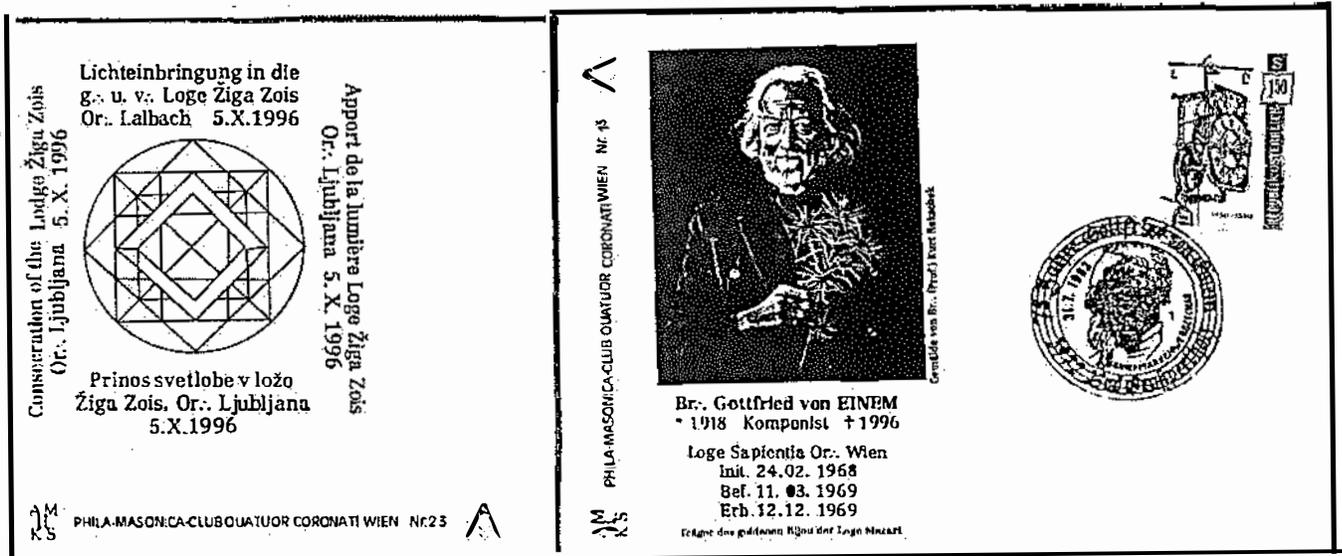
Bro. Juan Sabater Pie is now off his annual "Holiday" (he has 30 days off but gave a week of work to his company in that period). He has sent in a new Masonic Cacheted cover he recently received from Brethren in Brazil - for the 95th Anniversary of "Ordem e Trabalho Lodge" of Florianopolis. It is illustrated here.



He has also provided an article which he wrote about the importance of Masons in the Independence of Cuba and the Philippines. It is a 15 page (A4 size) document complete with reference footnotes written in Catalan. (Your Editor hopes to be able to get it translated into English but in the meantime, if any member desires a copy, please write to me to request it.)

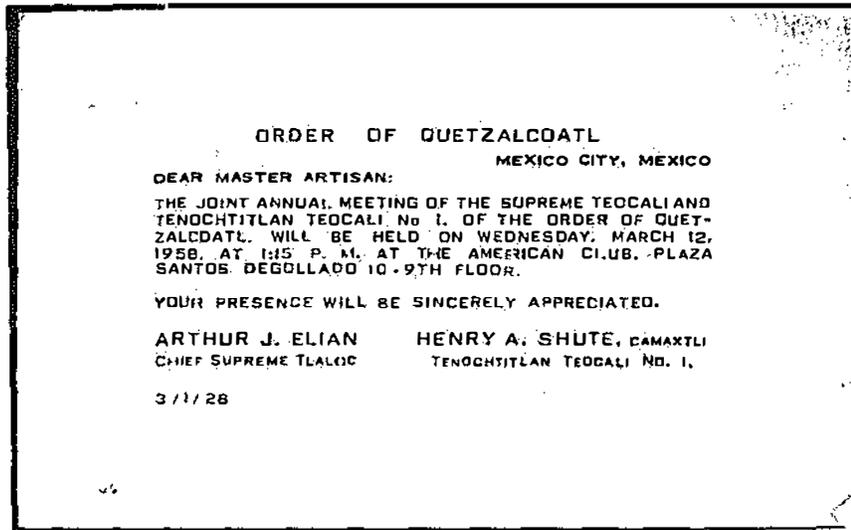
AUSTRIAN MASONIC COVERS

The covers shown below were published by the Phila-Massonica-Club, Quatuor Coronati, Wien and were provided by the President of that group, Bro. Dr. Herbert Schmid-Korlath, Hackenbergasse 29/33/3, A-1190 Wien, Austria.



ORDER OF QUETZALCOATL

Bro. Gene Fricks acquired the Mexican imprinted postal card shown here some years ago but recently was able to learn of its Masonic significance through the assistance of Bro. and Noble William Smith in Wyoming.



Bro. Smith states: "I am a Master Artisan and currently the Camaxtli of Cuero de Baca Teocali No. 1369 in Wyoming. (Camaxtli is the equivalent to Master of a Lodge.) In addition to the initiation fee (\$169.00) and annual dues (\$69.00), we pay \$30.00 per meeting and must attend at least one meeting per quarter to maintain our membership.

"The Order of Quetzalcoatl (the "Q") represents a most unique and fascinating Shrine Order, with Teocalis throughout the Shrine. The Order is the only Order of American origin (registered in Mexico in 1975 and in the U.S. in 1981) following Masonic tenets, based upon authentic Mexican Indian history and legend that depicts the eternal struggle between the forces of good and evil. Quetzalcoatl, the ancient god, is symbolized by the Plumed Serpent found in many ancient Aztec, Toltec and Mayan ruins throughout Mexico and Central America. The Order was founded by Arthur Elian, 33rd Degree, P.P., and Recorder of ANEZEH Shrine Temple in Mexico City in 1945.

"While our purpose is to enjoy our Fraternity, the Order's ceremonies and its gatherings and social affairs, the reason for being is to honor the workers/leaders of our Temples and to aid our Shrine's transportation funds. Our founder, in an effort to create interest in his country and their unique Shrine endeavors, developed this Order from Mexico's ancient mythology and history in an effort to assist the Shrine hospital in Mexico City. Its pagentry and purpose are second to none.

"There are three degrees in the Order, Coate (Short Form), Artisan (fully initiated members), and those that journey to yearly consecration ceremonies in Mexico (Cancun or Mexico City) or who receive their consecration in the yearly Master Artisan ceremony given once a year in the U.S. These are known as Master Artisans. Any Noble is eligible to join the Order of Quetzalcoatl, but it is by invitation only that he does so. We are a separate entity within the Shrine, with regional and national organizations supporting us. Each Teocali adopts their own By-Laws. To begin a Teocali in your Shrine requires ten Nobles who have rendered outstanding, conspicuous and unselfish service to their Temple."

As Bro. Fricks, Member No. 224 of Clementon, NJ, states: "Interesting what a common postal card can teach you."

MASONS OF THE OPERA

The October issue of the American Philatelist lists 33 opera composers found on stamps. Four of them have Masonic connections. Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924) - Italy - Scott 1158 - produced popular works such as La Boheme, Tosca, Madam Butterfly and Turandot. Bro. Paul Nettle, a musicologist wrote that he was a Mason but gave no details. Arrigo Boito (1842-1918) is remembered for Mefistofele 1868 based on Bro. Mozart's Faust. Shown on Italy - Scott 982, he is also claimed as a Brother by Bro. Nettle. (Can anyone provide details?) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) is often considered the greatest classical composer who ever lived. Among his fifteen operas are three masterpieces which rate among the best ever written. The Marriage of Figaro is a perfect opera buffa filled with amusing disguises and beautiful melodies. Don Giovanni has elements of comedy but is also a serious study of punishment for misdeeds. The Magic Flute is Mozart's "Masonic Opera". It is a singspiel with spoken dialog in German. Bro. Mozart was raised in Lodge Zur Wohltatigkeit in 1785. He is on Austria - Scott 609 and many other stamps. Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827) is considered to be a Mason although nobody has ever discovered what Lodge he belonged to. He only wrote one opera - Fidelio. He has also been pictured on many world stamps. The article also refers to Lauritz Melchior (1890-1973) the great Danish heldentenor shown on Nicaragua - Scott 965 - who appeared in opera and on film; he was a member of St. Johns Lodge in Copenhagen. Richard Tucker (1913-1975) who just appeared on a U.S. stamp was a leading tenor with the Metropolitan Opera. He was raised in Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 604, New York, in 1940. A few other operatic Masons on stamps were overlooked:

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) Austria - Scott 644 - wrote eleven operas but none are performed today. He was initiated in Lodge Zur Wahrn Eintracht, Vienna, Feb. 4, 1785.

Ludwig Spohr (1784-1859) Germany - Scott 804 - was a distinguished violinist, composer and conductor. His best opera was Jessonda 1823; he wrote ten others. He was a member of Lodge Ernst Zum Compass, Gotha.

Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900) composed one serious opera - Ivanhoe - which was a failure. His comic operettas with Sir William S. Gilbert are a delight. Both Brethren were honored by a set of English stamps. Sullivan was raised in Bayard Lodge No. 1615 in 1876 and Gilbert (1836-1911) was raised in St. Machar Lodge No. 54, Aberdeen, Scotland in 1871.

Antonio Carlos Gomes (1836-1896) Brazil 1155 - wrote Il Guarany in 1870. It is the only opera by a Latin American that is in the repertory of any major opera company outside of Latin America. He was a member of Lodge Amazade in Sao Paulo. (see later this issue for stamp.)

Franco Alfano (1876-1954) completed Puccini's Turandot 1926 and wrote several other operas. A Nicaraguan stamp - Scott 968 - shows a scene from Turandot. He was a member of Lodge Mazzini Ballon, San Remo, and was also a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason.

The U.S. Metropolitan Opera stamp (Scott 2054) can be used to represent two famous Masons:

Edward Johnson (1878-1959) was the general manager of the Met from 1935 to 1950. He was raised in Adelpia Lodge No. 348 in New York April 1, 1902.

Fausta Cleva (1902-1971) conducted 650 performances at the Met from 1950 to 1971. He was a Past Master of Alba Lodge No. 891 of New York.

-article contributed by Bro. Norm Lincoln

FRENCH INDEX OF THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Bro. Jean Prouteau has sent in a copy of a detailed index of Masons who have been cited in various issues of "The Masonic Philatelist". It provides an alphabetical listing of the full name, birth-death years, Newsletter Whole Number, Page, Lodge information and general comments. It is in French. Bro. Prouteau would like to know if any members might be interested in this item. Contact him at 1, rue Verlaine, 17000 La Rochelle, France.

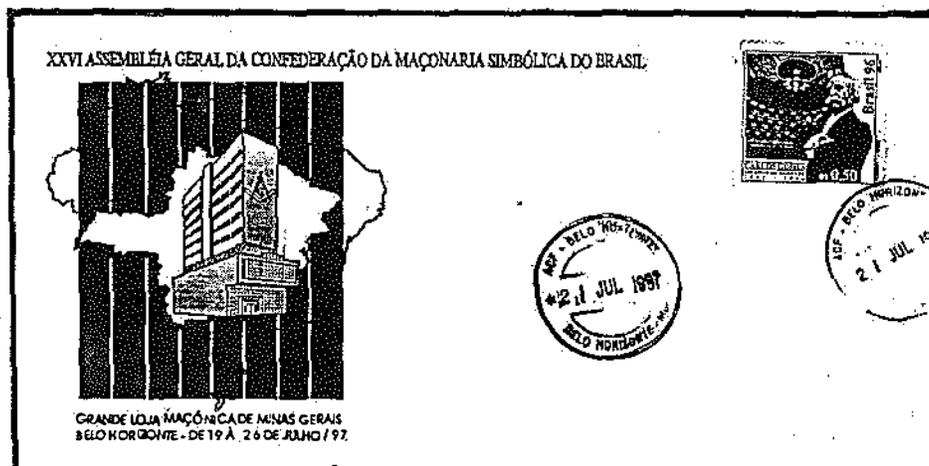
AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT A MASON??

The Austrian Postal and Telegraph Administration recently issued a special stamp to note the 65th birthday of Dr. Thomas Klestil, President of the Republic of Austria. Can anyone tell us whether or not he is a Mason?



MASONIC PHILATELY FROM BRAZIL

Bro. Jose Cavalcanti Melo, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pernambuco, has sent in the cover shown here which uses a new stamp issued for Bro. Carlos Gomes mentioned earlier in this newsletter.



Bro. Peter Meyer, Editor of the Brazilian "Catalogo Maçonico de Selos & Carimbos do Brasil", has provided a copy of that work. It is an excellent reference book providing illustrations of all Brazilian regular and commemorative issues which picture Masons as well as the various Masonic cancellations which have been used over the years. It apparently will be kept up to date in future years. Information on this catalog can be obtained from him at Caixa Postal 3577, CEP 01060-970, Sao Paulo/SP, Brasil

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of Masonic interest have been cited in recent philatelic media:

- 1997 - Central Af. Rep. - Space - four panes of four se-tenant stamps, one stamp pictures John Glenn
- 1997 - Jordan - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan - one value
- Feb. 24 - The Gambia - The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling, pane of 12 se-tenants
- Mar. 14 - Guyana - George Washington - pane of 13 se-tenant stamps, one is painting by C. W. Peale
- Apr. 8 - Namibia - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, one value
- Apr. 15 - Chile - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, one value
- Apr. 21 - Bulgaria - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, one value
- May 19 - Honduras - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, one value
- May 20 - Gambia - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
 - Guyana - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- May 28 - Grenada - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- May 29 - Dominica - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
 - Ghana - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
 - Grenada-Grenadines - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- June 2 - Uganda - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- June 3 - St. Vincent-Grenadines - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- June 12 - Antigua & Barbuda - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
 - Maldives - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- Jul. 1 - Ecuador - 150th Death Anniv. of Vicente Rocafuerte, one value
- Jul. 10 - Ascension Is - 50th Wedding Anniv., S/S shows Prince Philip
 - British Indian Ocean Territory - 50th Wedding Anniv., details not provided
 - Gibraltar - 50th Wedding Anniv., se-tenant pair
 - St. Helena - 50th Wedding Anniv., 3 se-tenant pairs + S/S, show Prince Philip
 - Western Samoa - 50th Wedding Anniv., 3 se-tenant pairs + S/S, show Prince Philip
- Aug. - Micronesia - Pioneers of the Deep/Exploration of the Oceans, pane of 9 se-tenant stamps, one pictures Simon Lake
 - Zambia - 100th Death Anniv. of H. von Stephan, pane of 3 se-tenant stamps
- Aug. 12 - Norfolk Is. - 50th Wedding Anniv., 2 se-tenant pairs + S/S, show Prince Philip
- Aug. 22 - Grenada-Grenadines - Master Classical Composers, pane of 9 se-tenant stamps plus 2 S/S, include Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart
- Oct. - Dominica - Great Medical Discoveries, 8 values plus 2 S/S, include A. Fleming
- Oct. 9 - Bermuda - 50th Wedding Anniv., se-tenant pair + S/S, show Prince Philip
- Nov. 20 - Jersey - 50th Wedding Anniv., se-tenant pair + S/S, show Prince Philip